

VALUE OF GROUND FISH TO THE PORT OF KODIAK

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Regional Information Report¹ No. 4K89-2

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
211 Mission Road
Kodiak, Alaska 99615

January 1989

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VALUE OF GROUND FISH TO THE PORT OF KODIAK

Kodiak's prominence as one of the nation's top fisheries ports is well known. Kodiak waters have produced major harvests of salmon, crab, shrimp, and halibut, but the importance of groundfish is a relatively new feature. In recent years, groundfish have made an important contribution to Kodiak in two ways. First, the ex-vessel value of groundfish now equals or exceeds that of crab, halibut, herring or other shellfish species. Second, unlike Kodiak's other pulse-type fisheries, groundfish provide nearly year-round harvests, thereby serving to stabilize Kodiak's economy.

This report describes trends in the growing domestic groundfish fishery (DAP), particularly for the shore-based vessels that delivered their catches to the Port of Kodiak in 1988. The data are preliminary in that total landings and prices in 1988 will not be finalized for several months, but the trends illustrated in this memo will not be greatly affected by updated numbers because groundfish catches during the month of December decreased substantially. Note also that catcher-processor data are not included in these analyses because their contribution to Kodiak's economy is much lower than that of the shore-based vessels. Halibut landings are also not included as part of the groundfish landings.

Port of Kodiak

In 1988, Kodiak was second only to Dutch Harbor in groundfish landings in Alaska (Fig. 1). Together these two ports processed over 210,000 metric tons equaling 85% of all groundfish delivered by shore-based vessel to 34 ports around the state. Kodiak, by itself, processed 28% of all statewide landings and 72% of all Gulf of Alaska landings. Both Kodiak's and Dutch Harbor's dominance in this respect is due, in part, to the high-volume pollock fisheries needed to operate the two surimi plants in each of these ports.

Groundfish landings at Kodiak have grown steadily in recent years to almost 190 million pounds (82,000 metric tons) in 1988 (Fig. 2). This far surpasses combined catches of all other fish and shellfish species at Kodiak (Fig. 3). Projections for 1989 show even greater increase in groundfish deliveries compared to the other commercial species harvested at Kodiak (Table 1).

The estimated ex-vessel value of Kodiak's groundfish grew to about \$25 million dollars in 1988 (Fig. 4). While this equaled

the average annual value of Kodiak's salmon landings in recent years (1980-1987), it was considerably less than the record high value received for salmon in 1988 (Fig. 5). However, the 1988 value of groundfish equaled or exceeded the ex-vessel values for king crab, Tanner crab, Dungeness crab, halibut, herring, and other shellfish landed in Kodiak. When halibut are added to the groundfish category, the total value of groundfish climbs to \$47 million dollars in 1988.

The major groundfish species landed at Kodiak were pollock (55% of landings by weight), Pacific cod (33%), flatfish species (6%), and sablefish (5%). Catches and values of these species, and halibut, are shown in Figures 6 and 7. Sablefish, pollock, and Pacific cod were of similar ex-vessel value in 1988, each being worth about 8 million dollars.

In terms of tonnage, most deliveries to Kodiak processors were from bottom and midwater trawlers (87%) compared to longliners (12%) and other gear types (1%) (Figure 8).

4 The number of groundfish vessels that made deliveries to Kodiak in 1988 ranged from 60-180 vessels, depending on the species delivered (Fig. 9). Pacific cod and sablefish were taken by the largest number of vessels partly because these species were caught by both major gear types, longliners and trawlers, in 1988.

In summary, Kodiak has benefited greatly from the "Americanization" of Alaska's groundfish fisheries. Groundfish will continue to exert a substantive and stabilizing influence on Kodiak's economy, not only because rich groundfish resources abound in the Kodiak area, but also because groundfish are a multi-species fishery, consisting of some 20 or more commercial fish species or species groups. The fishery should therefore be sustainable despite inevitable changes in the abundance of individual species.

Table 1. Pounds of fish and shellfish delivered to and processed by shore-based plants in the Kodiak Borough, 1988 (preliminary) and 1989 (projected). Data pertain mostly to the Port of Kodiak although relatively small catches from other ports in the Borough are included. Landings from catcher-processors and motherships are not included. Data compiled as of 12/15/88 by ADF&G staff: L. Malloy (finfish), L. Watson (groundfish), and A. Spalinger (shellfish).

<u>Species</u>	KODIAK BOROUGH	
	1988 Preliminary Landings (lb)	1989 Projected Landings (lb)
<u>GROUND FISH</u>		
Pollock	99,666,000	120,000,000
Pacific cod	59,535,000	92,500,000
Flatfish	10,143,000	36,000,000
Sablefish	8,820,000	9,000,000
<u>Other</u>	<u>2,426,000</u>	<u>4,500,000</u>
Sub-total	180,590,000	262,000,000
<u>HALIBUT</u> (dressed)	18,000,000	17,000,000
<u>SALMON</u>		
Kings	296,000	53,000
Reds	15,471,000	14,250,000
Coho	2,569,000	1,700,000
Pinks	55,005,000	39,900,000
<u>Chums</u>	<u>12,687,000</u>	<u>7,120,000</u>
Sub-Total	86,028,000	63,023,000
<u>HERRING</u>		
Sac-Roe	4,700,000	4,400,000
<u>Food/Bait</u>	<u>434,000</u>	<u>1,300,000</u>
Sub-Total	5,134,000	5,400,000
<u>CRAB</u>		
King	1,202,000	1,202,000
Tanner	5,400,000	5,900,000
<u>Dungeness</u>	<u>2,100,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
Sub-Total	8,702,000	9,102,000
<u>MISC. SHELLFISH</u>		
Scallops	150,000	150,000
Shrimp	320	300
Sea Urchins	200,000	200,000
Octopus	2,000	2,000
<u>Clams</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Sub-Total	352,320	352,300
TOTAL POUNDS PROCESSED	298,805,820	356,877,300

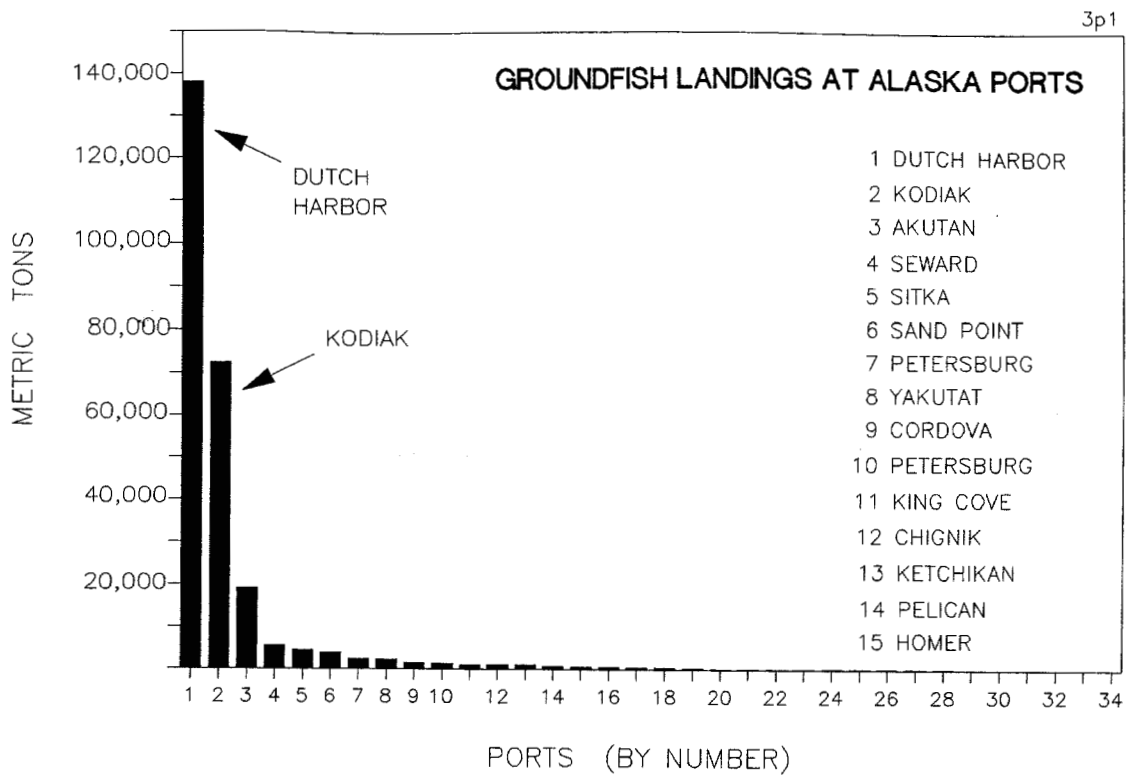


Figure 1. Groundfish landings by domestic shore-based vessels at 34 Alaskan ports, 1988. Halibut are not included. (Data source: NMFS fishticket database, 12/27/88)

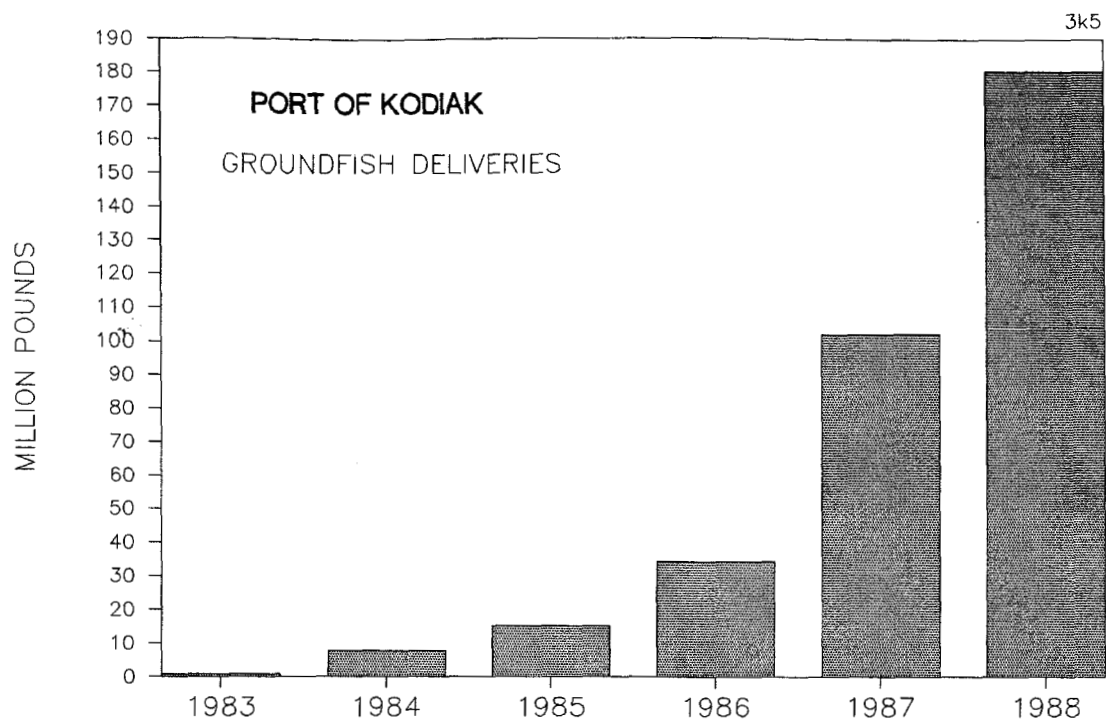


Figure 2. Groundfish deliveries by domestic shore-based vessels at the Port of Kodiak, 1983-1988. Halibut are not included. (Data sources: ADF&G annual shellfish reports; NMFS and ADF&G fishticket databases, 12/15/88)

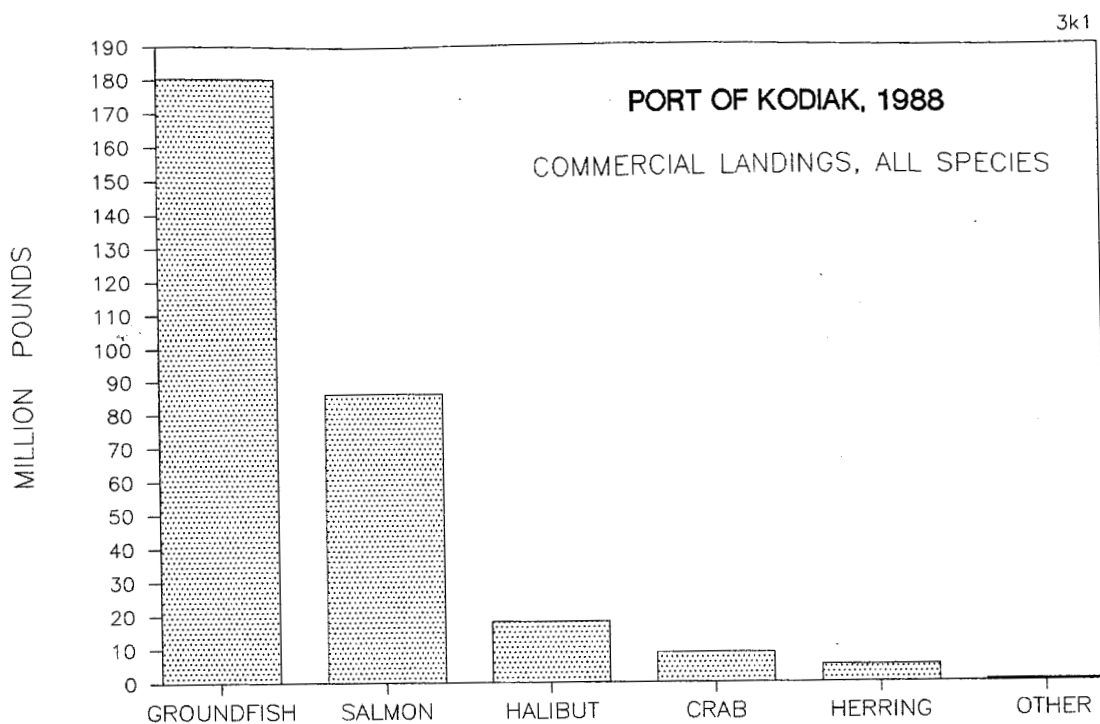


Figure 3. Fish and shellfish landings by domestic shore-based vessels at Kodiak, 1988. (Data sources: NMFS and ADF&G fishticket databases, 12/15/88)

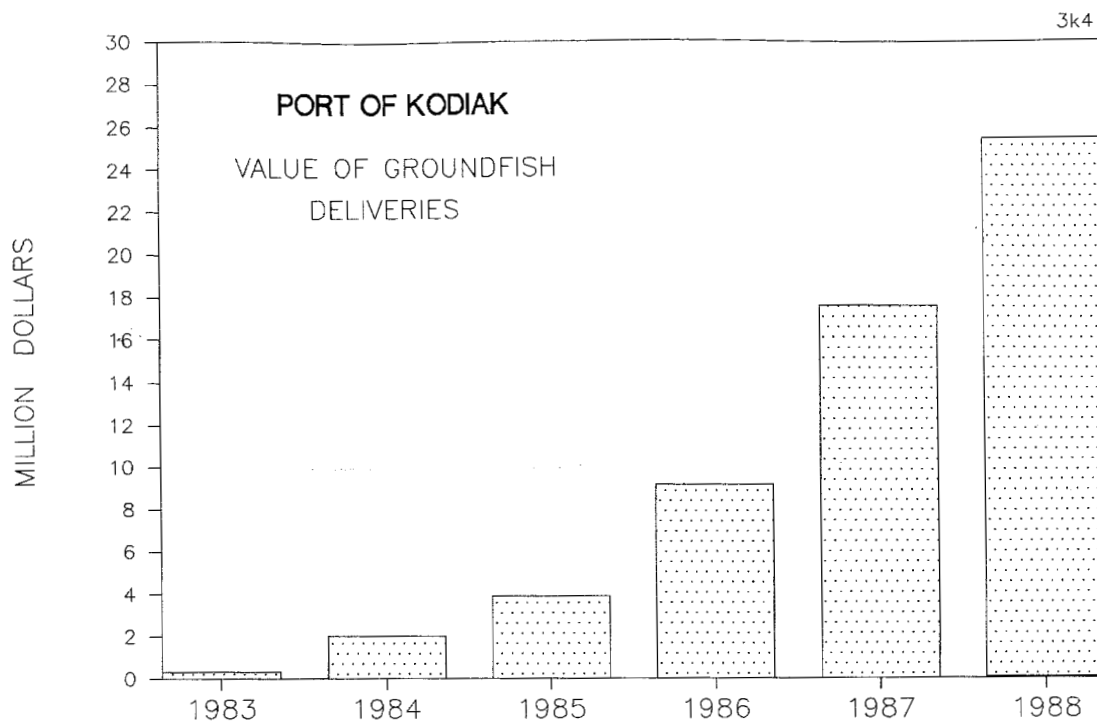


Figure 4. Ex-vessel value of groundfish landings at Kodiak by domestic shore-based vessels, 1983-1988. Halibut are not included. (Data sources: ADF&G annual shellfish reports; NMFS and ADF&G fishticket databases, 12/15/88)

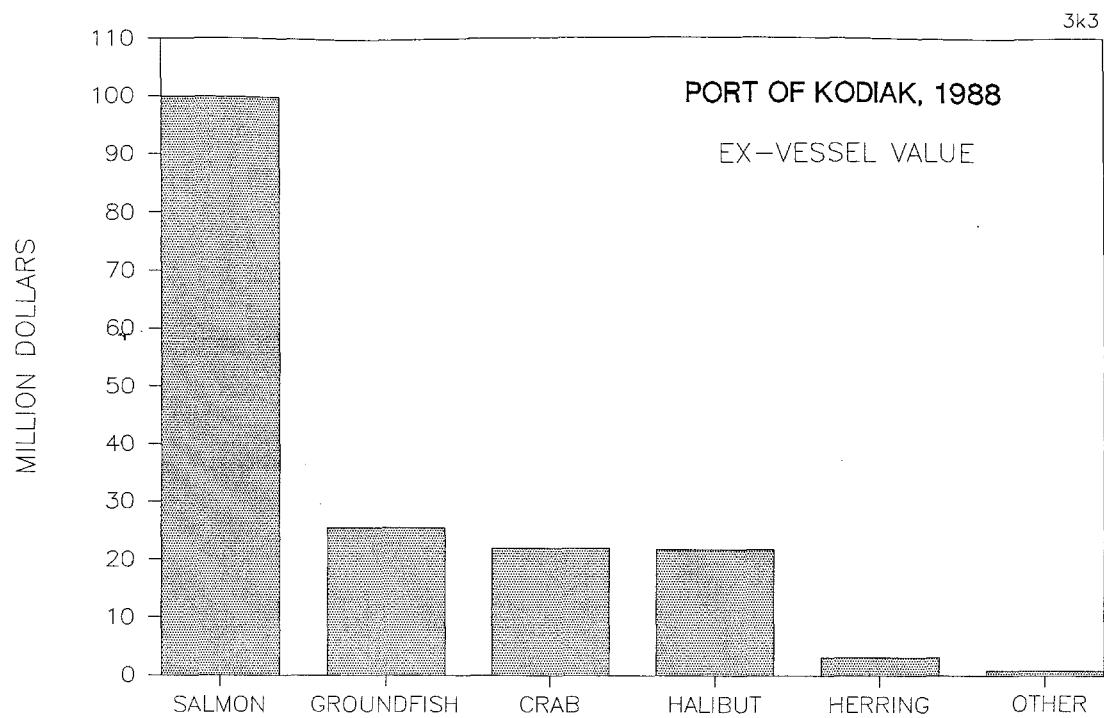


Figure 5. Ex-vessel value of fish and shellfish landings at Kodiak by domestic shore-based vessels, 1988. (Data sources: NMFS and ADF&G fishticket databases, 12/15/88)

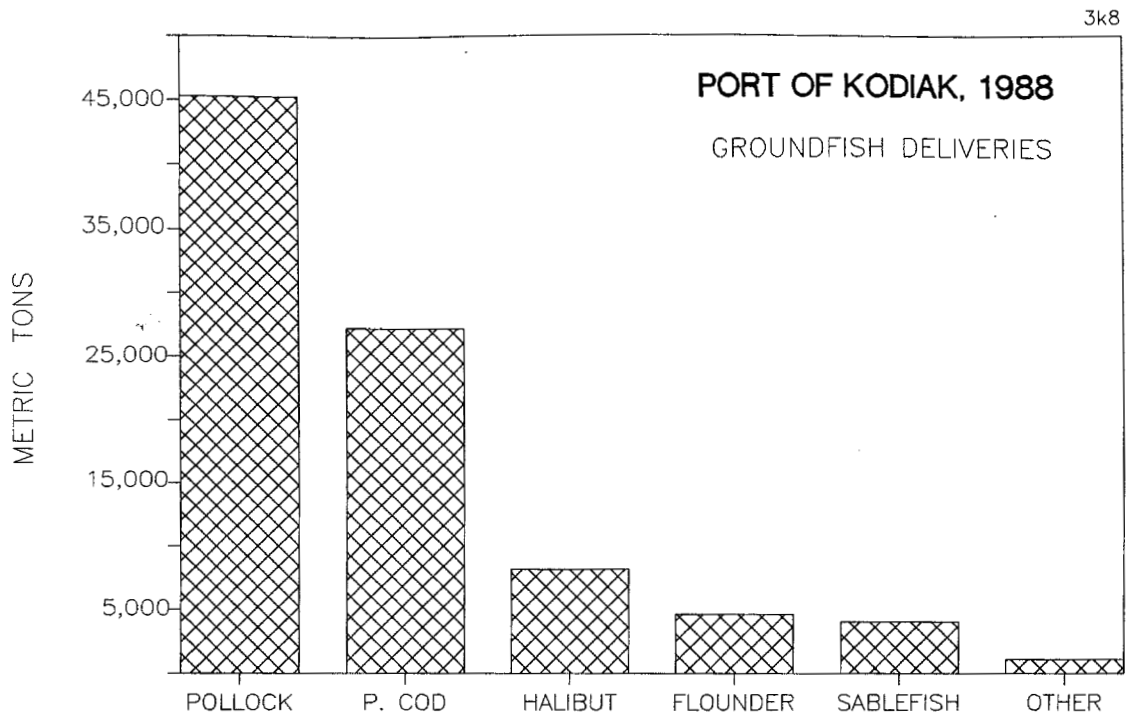


Figure 6. Groundfish landings by species, including halibut, at Kodiak in 1988. (Data sources: NMFS and ADF&G fishticket databases, 12/15/88)

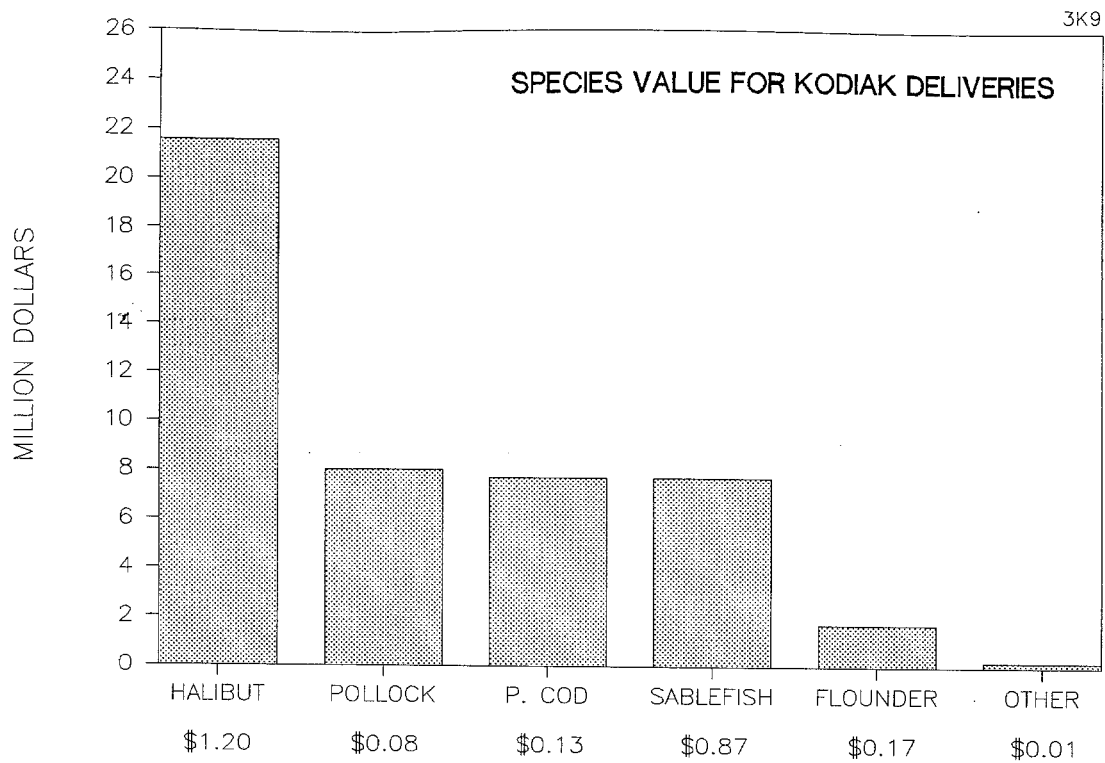


Figure 7. Ex-vessel value of groundfish species, including halibut, at Kodiak in 1988. Values were determined using the approximate price per pound for each species as indicated above.

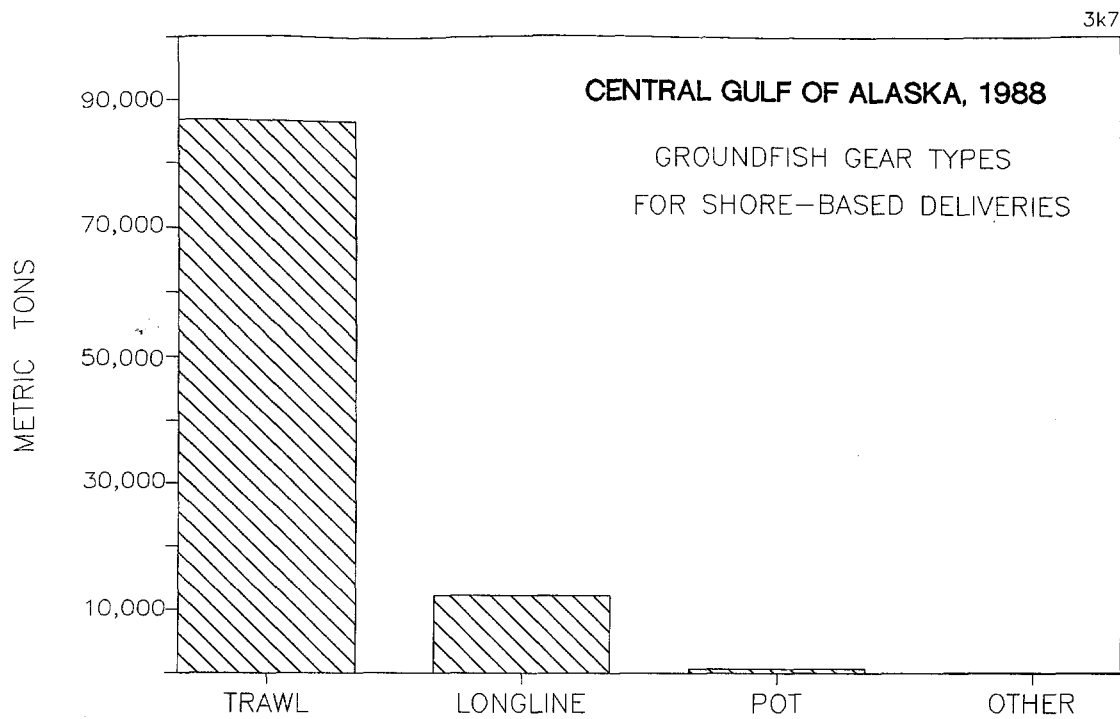


Figure 8. Groundfish landings by gear type at Kodiak, 1988.
(Data sources: NMFS and ADF&G fishticket databases,
12/15/88)

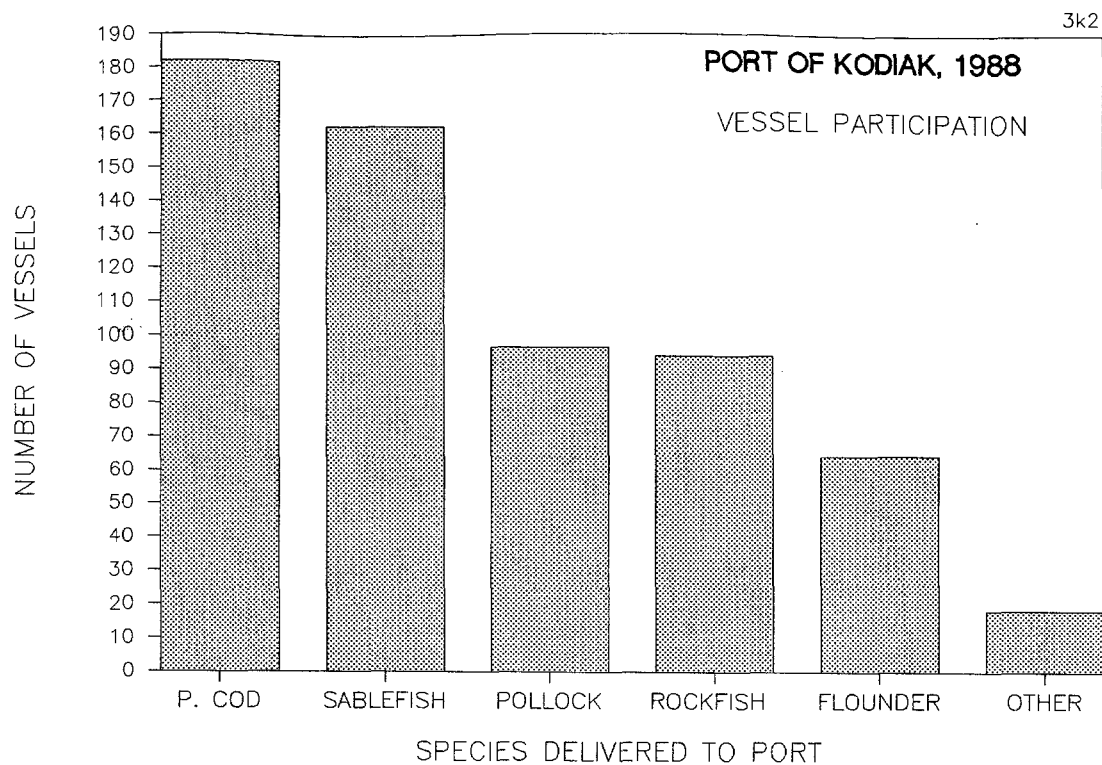


Figure 9. Number of domestic shore-based vessels that made deliveries of particular groundfish species to Kodiak in 1988. (Data source: NMFS fishticket database, 12/27/88)

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